

1 AN ACT relating to academic credit for military experience.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 164.2951 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) Beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year and each academic year thereafter for
5 first-time students enrolling in a public college or university, postsecondary
6 education institutions are encouraged to limit the credit-hour requirements to sixty
7 (60) credit hours for each associate of science or associate of arts degree program
8 and to one hundred twenty (120) credit hours for each bachelor of arts or bachelor
9 of science degree program, except in situations in which:
- 10 (a) Quality and content of a program would be negatively impacted; or
11 (b) A program must comply with specific program standards established by
12 external accreditation bodies.
- 13 (2) The Council on Postsecondary Education, in collaboration with the public
14 universities and community and technical colleges, shall:
- 15 (a) Facilitate the development and implementation of a statewide agreement for
16 alignment of Kentucky Community and Technical College System lower-
17 division associate of arts and associate of science coursework that shall be
18 accepted and fully credited to related bachelors degree programs by all public
19 universities. The agreement shall specify the general education learning
20 outcomes and program-specific prerequisite learning outcomes of the
21 coursework. Where applicable, curricula shall be reviewed to determine
22 comparability of core content standards required under KRS 164.302. The
23 agreement shall direct that the associate of arts and associate of science
24 coursework meeting the learning outcomes specified shall be accepted for
25 transfer and degree credit, whether earned as individual courses or within
26 block programs;
- 27 (b) Develop, implement, and maintain a Kentucky Community and Technical

- 1 College System statewide course numbering system for lower-division general
2 education and program-specific prerequisite courses that include the same
3 learning outcomes;
- 4 (c) Establish a statewide course classification system and procedures to monitor
5 the transfer and crediting of lower-division coursework, including a system of
6 ongoing assessment that ensures comparability for transfer purposes;
- 7 (d) Establish a procedure for approval of changes in learning outcomes at public
8 universities as described in subsection (3) of this section;
- 9 (e) Facilitate, develop, implement, and maintain a statewide policy among all
10 public postsecondary education institutions to provide appropriate academic
11 credit for military service and training for members serving in the United
12 States Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard, and veterans who were
13 discharged or released therefrom with an honorable discharge, discharge
14 under honorable conditions, or general discharge;
- 15 (f) Standardize credit-by-exam equivalencies and common passing scores for
16 national exams transferable for general education courses and program-
17 specific prerequisites courses;
- 18 (g)(f) Develop policies to align statewide articulation and transfer procedures
19 across educational institutions, including admissions criteria, student
20 declaration of major, and student guidance and counseling policies designed
21 to ensure that students pursuing an associate of arts or associate of science
22 degree program provide timely notification of their intention to transfer to a
23 public university;
- 24 (h)(g) Develop uniform data collection and reporting methods to facilitate and
25 ensure statewide and institutional compliance with course transfer and credit
26 requirements;
- 27 (i)(h) Guarantee that, upon admission to a public university, graduates of an

1 associate of arts or an associate of science degree program approved by the
2 council in consultation with public universities shall be deemed to have met
3 all general education requirements;

4 ~~(j)~~~~(i)~~ Provide that graduates of approved associate of arts and associate of
5 science degree programs of Kentucky public postsecondary institutions who
6 complete the prerequisite learning outcomes for a bachelor of arts or bachelor
7 of science program while fulfilling the requirements for an associate of art or
8 associate of science degree, shall not be required to repeat or to take any
9 additional lower-level courses to fulfill bachelor degree requirements in the
10 same major, and these students shall be granted admission to related upper-
11 division bachelors degree programs of a state public college or university on
12 the same criteria as those students earning lower-division credits at the
13 university to which the student transferred;

14 ~~(k)~~~~(j)~~ Provide that graduates of approved associate of arts and associate of
15 science degree programs shall receive priority for admission to a state public
16 university over out-of-state students if they meet the same admission criteria;

17 ~~(l)~~~~(k)~~ Establish a commonality in college transcripts to be used in all public
18 colleges and universities to facilitate transfer from community and technical
19 colleges;

20 ~~(m)~~~~(l)~~ Encourage private colleges and universities to collaborate with public
21 educational institutions in developing programs and agreement to expedite the
22 transfer of students and credits between institutions;

23 ~~(n)~~~~(m)~~ Establish an appeals process to resolve disagreements between
24 transferring students and receiving educational institutions regarding the
25 transfer and acceptance of credits earned at another institution; and

26 ~~(o)~~~~(n)~~ Ensure that all articulation and transfer policies are consistent with the
27 rules and regulations established by all appropriate discipline-specific

1 accrediting bodies and institutional accrediting agencies as recognized by the
2 United States Department of Education.

3 (3) When an institution seeks to change learning outcomes for a bachelor of arts or
4 bachelor of science program that affect lower-division courses, the university shall
5 notify the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Kentucky Community and
6 Technical College System of the proposed changes at the same time as the initiation
7 of the university's approval process. If it is determined that the proposed change will
8 have an adverse effect on transferability, the university proposing the change shall
9 enter into discussion with the council and the Kentucky Community and Technical
10 College System to verify there remains a clearly defined path to a bachelor's degree
11 for those students who plan to transfer from the Kentucky Community and
12 Technical College System to the public university.